

Patent Application 10/075,843
Attorney Docket No. PC10030C

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4 – 8, 10 and 15 - 23 are pending in the application. Claims 7, 15 and 16 are currently amended. Claim 9 is canceled. A copy of the claims now pending in the application in accord with 37 CFR 1.121, as revised, has been provided. A marked-up version of claims 7, 15 and 16 are attached herewith.

No new matter has been introduced by virtue of the amendments made herein. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request their entry. In view of the amendments made herein and the remarks below, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection set forth in the August 26, 2004 office action.

Allowability of Claims 1, 4-8, 8-10 and 17-23

In the August 26, 2004 Office Action, the Examiner indicated that the subject matter of claims 1, 4-8, 8-10 and 17-23 are allowable. Applicants thank the Examiner for this finding.

Rejection under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph

The Examiner rejected claims 7, 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness. Claim 7 was rejected as being duplicative to claim 9. Claims 15 and 16 were rejected as containing elements with insufficient antecedent basis. It was also pointed out that claim 16 depended on now canceled claim 3.

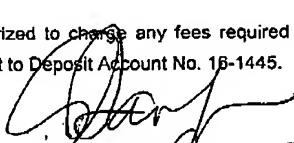
Without prejudice and in the interests of clarity and of facilitating prosecution, applicants have amended claims 7, 15 and 16.

Applicants submit that currently amended claims 7, 15 and 16 are patentable under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, and respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

In view of the amendments set forth herein and remarks above, the applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are fully allowable, and solicit the issuance of a notice to such effect. If a telephone interview is deemed to be helpful to expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 16-1445.

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